

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Washita

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Birds



Welcome to Birding at Washita National Wildlife Refuge

Washita National Wildlife Refuge is operated by the U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service primarily to provide a resting and feeding area for migrating and wintering waterfowl. The 8,200 acre refuge on the mixed grass plains of west-central Oklahoma is superimposed on the upper reaches of Foss Reservoir. The reservoir was developed by the Bureau of Reclamation. The southern portion of the lake is administered as a State Park. The reservoir and waterfowl refuge are ideally located in the Central Flyway.

Washita's open waters, shallow marshes and 2,100 acres of planted crops are heavily used by migrating waterfowl and sandhill cranes. Other water and marsh birds enjoy the refuge in lesser numbers. Diversity of habitats attracts and provides for many other species of migratory and resident birds. Fields of native and introduced grasses are part of the refuge uplands. Brushy draws and bottomlands and wooded creek and river banks are scattered throughout. Washita lies within the transition zone between the tall grass and short grass prairies. Both eastern and western species of birds occur on the refuge.

This list includes 271 species of birds that have been identified on or adjacent to Washita National Wildlife Refuge since its establishment in 1961. They are listed in accordance with the 7th edition (1998) A.O.U. checklist through the 43rd Supplement to the AOU Checklist (July 2002). All visitors are welcome to report unusual bird sightings to the refuge headquarters.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Photograph by Nova Silvy

How to use your checklist

Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:

Occurrence

Sp Spring March - May

S Summer June - August

F Fall September - November

W Winter December - February

* Nests locally

Federally Endangered or
Threatened Species are listed in
italics

Abundance

A Abundant

A common species that is very
numerous.

C Common

Certain to be seen in suitable
habitats.

U Uncommon

Present, not certain to be seen.

O Occasional

Seen few times during the season

R Rare

Seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years.

X Accidental

Has been seen only once or twice.



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Loons				
___Red-throated Loon			x	
___Pacific Loon				x
___Common Loon	u	x	u	u
Grebes				
___Pied-billed Grebe	c	u	c	u
___Horned Grebe	o		c	c
___Eared Grebe	u		o	
___Western Grebe		x	o	r
Pelicans				
___American White Pelican	c	o	u	r
___ <i>Brown Pelican</i>			x	
Cormorants				
___Neotropic Cormorant			x	
___Double-crested Cormorant	c	o	c	c
Darters				
___Anhinga	x	x		
Hérons, Bitterns and Egrets				
___American Bittern	u		u	
___Least Bittern	r		r	
___Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	u
___Great Egret	u	u	u	
___Snowy Egret	u	u	u	
___Little Blue Heron	u	o	u	
___Tricolored Heron		x		
___Cattle Egret	u	u	u	
___Green Heron	c	u	u	
___Black-crowned Night-Heron	u	o	u	
___Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	o	o	o	
Ibises				
___White Ibis	x			
___White-faced Ibis	c	r	u	
Vultures				
___Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	
Ducks, Geese, and Swans				
___Greater White-fronted Goose	u		u	c
___Snow Goose	u		u	c
___Ross's Goose	u		u	c
___Canada Goose*	c	u	a	a
___Brant			x	x
___Trumpeter Swan				x
___Tundra Swan	r			o
___Wood Duck*	u	u	u	r
___Gadwall	c		c	c
___American Wigeon	c		a	a
___American Black Duck			x	x
___Mallard*	a	u	a	a
___Blue-winged Teal*	c	o	c	r
___Cinnamon Teal	o		r	
___Northern Shoveler	c	o	c	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Ducks, Geese, and Swans (cont.)				
___ Northern Pintail	c		u	c
___ Green-winged Teal	c		c	c
___ Canvasback	u		c	u
___ Redhead	c	r	c	c
___ Ring-necked Duck	c		c	c
___ Greater Scaup			r	r
___ Lesser Scaup	u		u	o
___ Long-tailed Duck				x
___ Bufflehead	u		c	u
___ Common Goldeneye	u		o	u
___ Hooded Merganser	u	x	c	c
___ Common Merganser	o	x	o	c
___ Red-breasted Merganser	r		u	u
___ Ruddy Duck	u	r	c	o
Hawks, Kites, and Eagles				
___ Osprey	c	r	u	
___ Mississippi Kite*	c	c	u	
___ <i>Bald Eagle</i>	o		o	u
___ Northern Harrier*	c	o	c	c
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	u		u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk*	u	o	u	u
___ Northern Goshawk			x	
___ Harris's Hawk				x
___ Red-shouldered Hawk				x
___ Swainson's Hawk*	c	u	c	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Ferruginous Hawk	o		o	u
___ Rough-legged Hawk	r		r	o
___ Golden Eagle	r		r	o
Falcons				
___ American Kestrel*	c	u	c	u
___ Merlin	o		o	o
___ Peregrine Falcon	r	x	r	
___ Prairie Falcon	o		o	u
Pheasants, Grouse, and Turkeys				
___ Ring-necked Pheasant	r		r	r
___ Lesser Prairie-Chicken			r	r
___ Wild Turkey*	c	c	c	c
New World Quail				
___ Northern Bobwhite*	c	c	c	c
Rails, Gallinules and Coots				
___ Sora	o	o	o	
___ Common Moorhen	r	r		
___ American Coot	c	r	a	c
Cranes				
___ Sandhill Crane	u		c	u
___ <i>Whooping Crane</i>	r		r	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Plovers				
___Black-bellied Plover	u		o	
___American Golden-Plover	o		r	
___Snowy Plover	o	r	o	
___Semipalmated Plover	o		o	
___Killdeer*	c	c	c	c
Stilts and Avocets				
___Black-necked Stilt	r			
___American Avocet	u	o	u	
Sandpipers and Phalaropes				
___Greater Yellowlegs	c	o	u	r
___Lesser Yellowlegs	c	u	o	
___Solitary Sandpiper	u	o	o	
___Willet	u	o		
___Spotted Sandpiper	c	o	u	
___Upland Sandpiper	u	u	o	
___Whimbrel	o			
___Long-billed Curlew	u	r		
___Hudsonian Godwit	r			
___Marbled Godwit	u	o		
___Ruddy Turnstone	r			
___Sanderling	o		o	
___Semipalmated Sandpiper	c	u	u	
___Western Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___Least Sandpiper	c	u	u	r
___White-rumped Sandpiper	u	o		
___Baird's Sandpiper	c	u	u	
___Pectoral Sandpiper	u	o	o	
___Stilt Sandpiper	c	o	o	
___Long-billed Dowitcher	c	o	o	
___Wilson's Snipe	u		u	o
___Wilson's Phalarope	c	o	o	
Gulls and Terns				
___Franklin's Gull	c	o	o	
___Bonaparte's Gull	u		u	c
___Ring-billed Gull	c	r	c	c
___Herring Gull	o		o	u
___Lesser Black-backed Gull				x
___Common Tern		r	r	
___Forster's Tern	u	o	o	
___ <i>Least Tern</i>	o	o	o	
___Black Tern	u	u	u	
Pigeons and Doves				
___Rock Dove	o	o	o	o
___Eurasian Collared-Dove			x	x
___White-winged Dove	x			
___Mourning Dove*	c	a	a	c
___Inca Dove			r	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Cuckoos and Roadrunners				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	u	
___ Greater Roadrunner*	u	u	u	u
Barn Owls				
___ Barn Owl*	u	u	u	u
Typical Owls				
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Great Horned Owl*	c	c	c	c
___ Snowy Owl			x	x
___ Burrowing Owl	r	r	r	r
___ Barred Owl	u	u	u	u
___ Long-eared Owl	r		r	r
___ Short-eared Owl	o		o	o
Goatsuckers				
___ Common Nighthawk*	c	c	c	
___ Common Poorwill	o		o	
___ Chuck-will's-widow	o			
___ Whip-poor-will	x			
Swifts				
___ Chimney Swift	u	o	u	
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	u	o	u	
___ Black-chinned Hummingbird	u	u	u	
___ Rufous Hummingbird		r	r	
Kingfishers				
___ Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	c	o
Woodpeckers				
___ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Golden-fronted Woodpecker	r		r	
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	o		o	o
___ Ladder-backed Woodpecker	r			r
___ Downy Woodpecker	u	u	u	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker	u	u	u	c
___ Northern Flicker*	c	u	c	c
Tyrant Flycatchers				
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	o			
___ Least Flycatcher	o			
___ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	u	x
___ Say's Phoebe	r			
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher	r		r	
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	u	
___ Western Kingbird*	c	u	c	
___ Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*	c	c	a	
Shrikes				
___ Loggerhead Shrike*	u	u	u	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Vireos				
___ White-eyed Vireo	x			
___ Bell's Vireo*	u	u	o	
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	r			
___ Blue-headed Vireo	r			
___ Warbling Vireo*	c	c	u	
___ Red-eyed Vireo	r			
Crows and Jays				
___ Blue Jay*	c	u	c	o
___ Western Scrub-Jay			x	x
___ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
Larks				
___ Horned Lark*	u	u	u	u
Swallows				
___ Purple Martin	o	o	o	
___ Tree Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Bank Swallow	u		u	
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Cliff Swallow*	c	a	c	
___ Barn Swallow*	c	a	c	
Chickadees and Titmice				
___ Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Tufted Titmouse	o	o	o	o
Nuthatches				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
Creepers				
___ Brown Creeper			o	u
Wrens				
___ Rock Wren	r			
___ Carolina Wren*	u	u	u	o
___ Bewick's Wren*	u	u	u	u
___ House Wren*	o	r	o	
___ Winter Wren	r		r	o
___ Sedge Wren	r		r	r
___ Marsh Wren	o		o	o
Kinglets				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	o		o	o
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
Gnatcatchers				
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	u	u	u	
Thrushes				
___ Eastern Bluebird*	u	u	u	u
___ Mountain Bluebird	o		u	u
___ Townsend's Solitaire			r	r
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	x			
___ Swainson's Thrush	o		r	
___ Hermit Thrush	o		o	o
___ American Robin*	c	o	c	c

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird*	o	o	o	
___ Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	c	u
___ Sage Thrasher	x		x	x
___ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	c	o
___ Curve-billed Thrasher				x
Starlings				
___ European Starling*	u	u	u	u
Pipits				
___ American Pipit	u		u	u
___ Sprague's Pipit	r		r	x
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	c		u	c
Wood-Warblers				
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	o		u	r
___ Nashville Warbler	r		r	
___ Yellow Warbler	u	u	u	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler				u
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	r			
___ Pine Warbler				x
___ American Redstart	r			
___ Common Yellowthroat*	u	u	o	
___ Wilson's Warbler	r			
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	r		r	
Towhees, Sparrows, and Allies				
___ Spotted Towhee	u		u	u
___ Cassin's Sparrow	o	o		
___ Rufous-crowned Sparrow	r			
___ American Tree Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Chipping Sparrow	c	r	o	
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	c		o	
___ Field Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
___ Vesper Sparrow	c		c	x
___ Lark Sparrow	c	c	u	
___ Lark Bunting	o		o	u
___ Savannah Sparrow	c		c	o
___ Grasshopper Sparrow*	c	c	c	
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	r		r	o
___ Fox Sparrow	o		o	u
___ Song Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	o		o	o
___ Swamp Sparrow				o
___ White-throated Sparrow	o		o	o
___ Harris's Sparrow	c		c	c
___ White-crowned Sparrow	c		c	c
___ Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
___ McCown's Longspur	o		r	o
___ Lapland Longspur	u		o	u
___ Smith's Longspur				r
___ Chestnut-collared Longspur	o		r	o

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Cardinals and Allies				
___ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	o		r	
___ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u	u	
___ Lazuli Bunting	o			
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Painted Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Dickcissel*	c	c	c	
Blackbirds				
___ Bobolink	r		r	
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	c	a
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c
___ Western Meadowlark*	u	u	u	u
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	u	o	u	x
___ Rusty Blackbird	o		o	o
___ Brewer's Blackbird	u		u	a
___ Common Grackle*	u	c	u	o
___ Great-tailed Grackle	o	o	o	r
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	a
___ Orchard Oriole*	c	c		
___ Baltimore Oriole*	c	c	u	
___ Bullock's Oriole	o	r	o	
Finches				
___ Purple Finch				x
___ House Finch	u	u	u	u
___ Red Crossbill				x
___ Pine Siskin	u		o	u
___ American Goldfinch*	u	u	u	c
___ Evening Grosbeak				r
Old World Sparrows				
___ House Sparrow*	u	u	u	u



Northern
Bobwhite
FWS Photograph

Notes

Date _____ Time _____

Observers_____

Weather _____

Species_____

Comments_____

Washita National Wildlife Refuge
Route 1, Box 68
Butler, Oklahoma 73625
580/664-2205
580/664-2206 Fax

<http://southwest.fws.gov/refuges/oklahoma/washita/index.htm>

For information on the
National Wildlife Refuge System
1 800/344-WILD

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

September 2004

